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Gibson seeks black lawmen

CITES LACK OF MINORITIES

Newark Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson criticized what he termed the lack of minority participation in the Essex County criminal justice system and said a black should be considered for the post of county prosecutor.

Gibson, in a letter to Gov. Brendan Byrne said, "Black involvement at all levels in the administration of criminal justice in the courts of Essex County has not been what it should be."

The mayor, referring to statistics published in the New Jersey Correctional Master Plan, stated, "Blacks comprised over 67 per cent of the total prison population in the state, while representing only 12.5 per cent of the entire state population.

"Further review incidcate that of the six counties (Passaic, Hudson, Union, Essex, Monmouth and Camden), which

Continued on page 3

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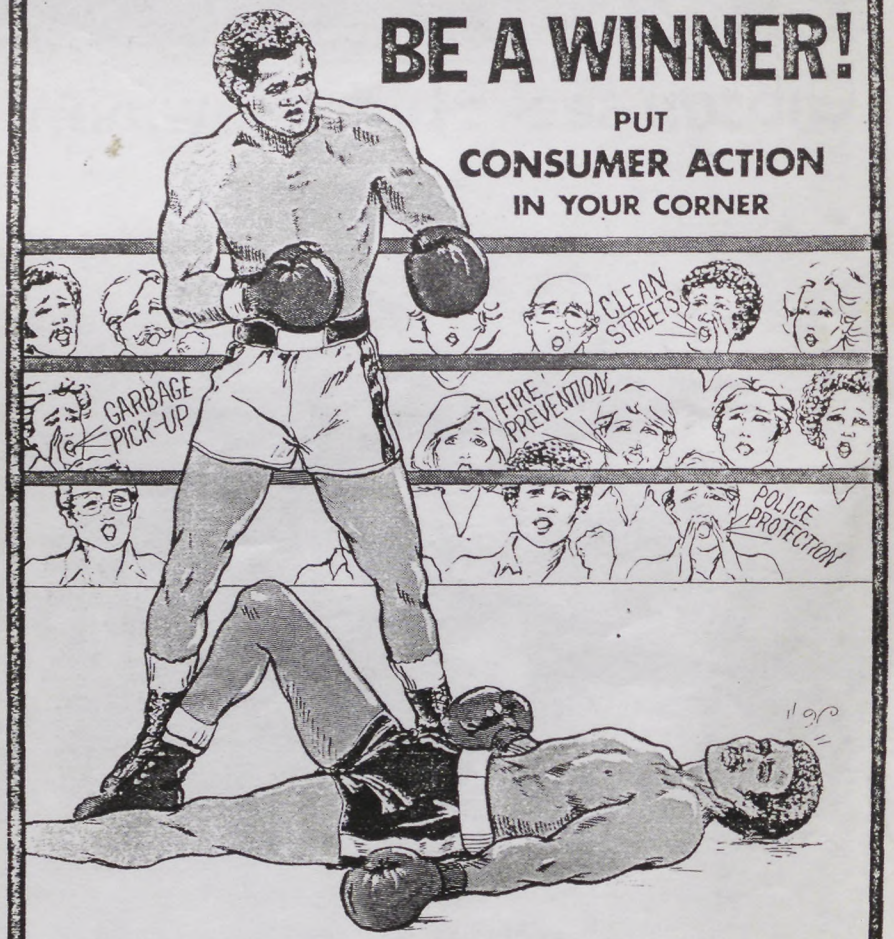

Newark Office of CONSUMER ACTION

733-8000

DIVISION OF THE CITY OF NEWARK

accounted for 66 per cent of the offenders incarcerated in fiscal 1974-75, Essex County ranked first with 1,224 individuals.

On the county level, Gibson said, "Blacks and other minorities accounted for 92.2 per cent of the total prison population of 9.519 individuals during 1975. These figures show that blacks and minorities are the major clients of the criminal justice system within the state as well as Essex County."

Gibson's letter pointed out the "irony" of the racial makeup of persons responsible for administering justice.

Of 71 assistant prosecutors employed in Essex County, the mayor said only four are black. Among the 104 investigators and detectives, Gibson said only 11 are black or Puerto Rican, with none of them above the rank of detective.

"I need not indicate that the prosecutor, the chief law enforcement official in the county, can be a powerful force in changing both the image and application of criminal justice in the county to one that is more representative of blacks and other minorities," he said in his letter to Byrne.

Gibson noted that it was not his intention to knock the county's justice system, but rather to improve it.

In addition, the mayor told Byrne that the county needed more black judges and blacks serving on juries.

WON ELEVEN CLUB — Pearl Coleman in her new 77 Cadillac 1 photo

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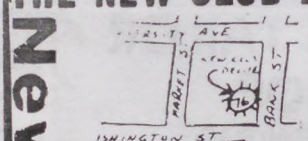

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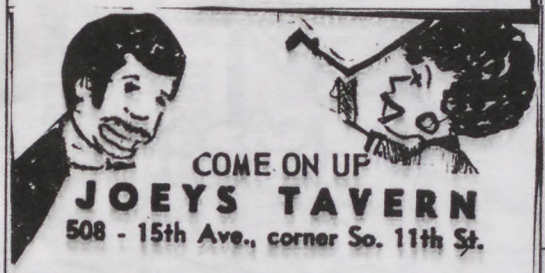

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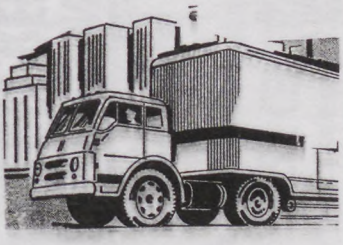

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LET'S DO IT AGAIN
JAZZ
By Geronimo

A few weeks ago, I had the pleasure of talking to Newark's Business Ad. Elton Hill in behalf of the Mayor. Mr. Hill expressed his gratitude for a job well done at the recent "NEWARK SALUTE JAZZ WEEK" and expressed interest in having another block type Jazz Show sometime again in the early fall. I'm all for that, especially if I can get K.G. to play "Flying Home"(just one more time). There is another point I'd like to make, in regards to a lot of former musicians like our Mayor, who can play. In N.Y. not so long ago, a businessman, professional man, who also can play, I'd like to see a type place like that open – downtown Newark, wherein all kinds of musicians and entertainers can get together and blow away some of their blues. The Committee to Present Jazz, Maxine Howard, Sandy Whiteurs & Tiny Prince and yours truly have got a few things lined up before we present our New 1978 Jazz Festival which you can bet your last dollar will be much improved over our 1st one. Newark and area has so much, young and old amateurs and professional talent, I'm going to ask the Mayor to help us get some kind of Workshop. Plus I like the hopes we have for. JV can your dig it.

By Geronimo

HERE ARE MIGHTY IMPORTANT FACTS for you

Tiny Prince Says:
TALENT FOR EVERY OCCASION
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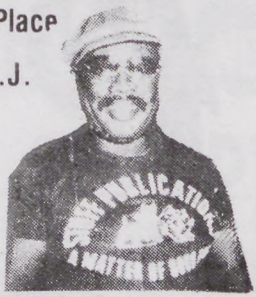

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